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IN THE COLLEGIUM OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS USSR

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Unsigned Article

The Collegium of the Ministry of Communications USSR discussed the question of the course of reorganization of communication organs and further measures for improving their structure, and also the matter of securing fulfillment of the 1955 plan and raising the quality of service to the population and national economy by means of communication. Ministers of communication of the union republics made reports at the collegium session.

The reorganization carried through has created conditions for fundamental improvement of the work of communication organs. In noting this, comrade Cherenkov, minister of communications RSFSR declared that the activity of the ministry he directs is now directed chiefly to spurring organizational work in local offices, giving concrete help to managements of communications, principally to those lagging behind, and also to checking on the fulfillment of party and government directives. Dwelling on the great work being done by communication organs in rural radiofication, comrade Cherenkov emphasized that successful fulfillment of the radiofication plan depends in large measure on strengthening the construction-erection managements, equipping them with mechanisms.

Comrade Kirichenko, minister of communications of the Ukraine SSR called attention to the slowness shown by industry in the production of multicore cables with chlorvinyl insulation. The Ministry of Communications USSR slowly installs in the communications system reinforced-concrete poles and structures.

In reporting on the work done by communication organs of Kazakhstan in servicing people and the new state farms in the districts where virgin and waste lands are being brought under cultivation, comrade Nosikov, minister of communications of the Kazakh SSR, acknowledged that there are serious shortcomings in this affair. In many state farms delivery of mail and correspondence is badly organized; the development of inter-urban telephone and telegraph communications still lags behind the growth of the republic's national economy.

Questions of further rise in labor productivity at communication enterprises were touched upon in the speeches of comrade Sharkov, minister of communications of the Uzbek SSR, and comrade Belyanin, minister of communications of the Lithuanian SSR. In a number of districts of the Lithuanian SSR, owing to better organization of labor and the combining of jobs, it proved possible to almost double the duration of operation of intradistrict telephone communication. In the Uzbek SSR the drivers of mail trucks have been engaged in collection of letters from mail boxes.

Comrade Toropkin, minister of communications of the Kirghiz SSR dwelt on the problems of increasing the profitability of communication enterprises, in particular of rural branches and agencies.

The speech of comrade Novikov, vice-minister of communications USSR, was devoted to improvement of the training and utilization of personnel in the organs of communication. He levelled criticism at the ministries of communication of the Ukraine and the Kirghiz SSR, the communication administrations of Krasnodar Kray, Rostov and Kuybyshev Oblasts, for

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improper use of specialists. The ministries of communication of a number of Central Asian republics, comrade Novikov pointed out, do not give proper attention to training national engineering-technical cadres.

A substantial part of the speech of comrade Sergeychuk, vice-minister of communications USSR, dealt with fulfillment of the current year's revenue plan. Noting that many communications offices fulfilled the revenue plan unsatisfactorily in the first quarter, comrade Sergeychuk indicated that this was explicable to a considerable extent by the managers of communications offices and enterprises having given inadequate attention to this important index of the state plan. It is necessary to wage an active struggle for fulfillment of the revenue plan first of all by means of further improvement of service to the population, heightening the quality of the work done by the communication organs.

The collegium session was also addressed by the ministers of communication of the union republics: Byelorussia, comrade Afanas'yev; Latvia, comrade Aleksandrov; Karelo-Finnish Republic, comrade Shvetsov; Georgia, comrade Khristesashvili; Estonia, comrade Rupskiy; Armenia, comrade Minasyants; Turkmenia, comrade Gusev; Azerbaydzhan, comrade Guseynov; Moldavia, comrade Kardashyev; Tadzhikistan, comrade Khomenko; members of the Collegium of the Ministry of Communications USSR comrades Popov and Stepanov, chiefs of administrations and departments of the ministry comrades Makarov, Badalov, Ravich, Glatskiy, Konyukhova, Bakhgorskiy.

In his speech comrade Psurtsev, the Minister of Communications USSR, emphasized that much work is still confronted in further simplification and improvement of the structure of the communication organs. The ministries of communication of the union republics and the ministers themselves must be more directly occupied with questions of the economics of the communications system, striving to make every enterprise profitable, strengthening cost accounting. In the communications system there are great potentials for further raising labor productivity by means of better organization of the production processes, filling the working day, combination of jobs. These possibilities must be boldly utilized. It is necessary to promote daringly and decisively engineers and technicians to responsible sections of the communications system; to promote young specialists in particular, without fearing that perhaps they will not at the outset in some ways fully meet the demands made. In order that proper results be achieved in their work, the republican ministries must pay special attention to improvement of the check-up on fulfillment of party and government decrees and ministry orders. Care about improvement of servicing the population by means of communication must as henceforth be at the center of attention of all soviet communication workers. The carrying out of reorganization, comrade Psurtsev said, in giving scope to the initiative of local workers, enables them to manifest themselves fully in the capacity of organizers of the communications system, and at the same time greatly increases their responsibility for correct conduct of this system, for fulfillment of the state plan and improvement of qualitative indexes.

In conclusion, the collegium examined and adopted a directive to the ministries of communication of the union republics "about the results of the activity of communication organs during 1954 and the basic tasks of soviet communication workers in 1955."

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